GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2856
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Lease for Salt Pan Land
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that in 2002-03 lease of salt pan land in Mumbai had expired and that the Government took possession of this land, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the complaints that these Salt Pan lands have been illegally subleased/sold by a private company, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, whether the Government has received any representation from peoples' representatives to have a special plan to get back this developable salt pan land and use it for mass housing, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): No Madam. Leases of none of the Central Government salt lands in Mumbai expired during 2002-2003. Hence question of Government taking possession of the said land does not arise.

(b): Question of illegal subleasing / selling of these lands by a private company does not arise in view of answer (a) above. However, a complaint was received about a private builder viz. Shapoorji Pallonji entering into Memorandum of Understanding/ registered agreement with Garodias to develop salt pan lands under Arthur and Jenkins Salt Works, Bhandup whose lease was for the period 15.10.1917 to 14.10.2016. The said lease was terminated vide order dated 02.11.2004. This was challenged by the ex-licensees and the matter at present is subjudice.

(c): A representation was received in December, 2016 wherein it was indicated that 1700 acres of land situated mainly in Eastern Suburban Mumbai could be made available for affordable housing and infrastructure project. These lands fall under Arthur Salt Works, Jenkins Salt Works, Jamasp Salt Works, Battiwala Salt Works, Shepherd Salt Works, and Shepherd Annexe Salt Works. Possession of these lands could not be taken by the Government due to stay granted by the court of law.

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